Revival of Dormant NAM

1406. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to reactivise NAM; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Foreign Ministers of Non-alinged countries will be meeting in Acera, Ghana from 4—7 September 1991 to review the implementation of the Belgrade Declaration and to consider new initiatives by the Movement in the context of changes in the international situaiton. India will be participating in this Meeting and will make her due contribution to reactivation of the Non-aligned Movement.

Most Favoured Nations Status to China by U. S. A.

1407. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent press reports that the U. S. A. has offered to accord the Most Favoured Nations Status to China, provided it terminated its exports of ballistic missiles to Pakistan, Iran and Syria; and

(b) if so, what steps, if any, have been taken by Government to impress upon China to desist from supplying the missiles to Pakistan and others, in the light of the US offer, and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) The US President has decided to renew Most Favoured Nation Status for China, unconditionally for one year.

(b) Government have in discussion with the Chinese Government, emphasised that the supply of sophisticated arms and missiles to Pakistan beyond its legitimate defence needs poses a threat to India's security and is not conductive to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia. Government have additionally stressed in these discussions the need for avoidance of actions that do not build mutual confidence and understanding between India and China.

The Chinese Government have stated that China takes a "very prudent attitude" with regard to arms sales. The Chinese authorities have confirmed the supply of "short range tactical missiles" to Pakistan stating that in their view this does not constitute a threat to a third country.

Augmentation of DTC Fleet

1408. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the DTC buses are ill-maintained; and

(b) if so, what steps are contemplated to augment the fleet and to improve the condition of the buses during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, overaged fleet to the extent of 40 per cent is affecting normal efficiency and presentability of DTC buses on line.

There is a provision of Rs. 43.25 crores for the year 1991-92 for acquisition of buses on 'Replacement account'.